AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) Method of operating a computer system, wherein said computer system comprises at least one application client (15), at least two application servers (20, 21) which are suitable to process requests of the application clients (15), and a database (26) accessible ~~which may be accessed~~ by the two application servers (20, 21), and wherein said method comprises the steps of:

recognising that the first one of the two application servers (20, 21) fails to access the database (26),

sending a request of the application client (15) for the first application server (21) from the first application server (21) to the second application server (20) while the first one of the two application servers (20, 21) fails to access the database,

processing the request by the second application server (20), and

sending a response to the request from the second application server (20) to the first application server (21).

2. (Original) Method of claim 1 comprising the further step of sending the response from the second application server (20) to an input queue (24) of the first application server (21).

3. (Original) Method of claim 2 comprising the further step of putting, by the first application server (21), the response from the input queue (24) to an output queue (27) of the first application server (21).

4. (Original) Method of claim 1 comprising the further step of sending the response from the second application server (20) to an output queue (27) of the first application server (21).

5. (Original) Method of one of claims 3 or 4 comprising the further step of sending the response from the output queue (27) to the application client (15).

6. (Currently Amended) Computer program or computer program product which is suitable to perform the method of one of claims 1 to 4 [[5]] when it is loaded into a computer system.

7. (Currently Amended) Computer system comprising

~~at least one application client (15),~~

at least two application servers (20, 21) which are suitable to process requests of ~~the~~ at least one application client ~~clients~~ (15),

a database (26) accessible ~~which may be accessed~~ by the application servers (20, 21),

means for recognising that the first one of the two application servers (21) fails to access the database (26),

means for sending a request of the application client (15) for the first application servers (21) from the first application server (21) to the second application server (20) while the first one of the two application servers (20, 21) fails to access the database,

means for processing the request by the second application server (20), and

means for sending a response to the request from the second application server (20) to the

first application server (21).

8. (Original) Computer system of claim 7 further comprising an input queue (24)

corresponding to the first application server (21).

9. (Original) Computer system of claim 7 or 8 further comprising an output queue (27)

corresponding to the first application server (21).

10. (Original) Computer system of one of claims 7 to 8 [[9]] wherein the at least two

application servers (20, 21) process requests from a number of application clients (14, 15, 16) are

provided.

11. (New) A method of operating a computer system, wherein the computer system

comprises an application client, application servers configured to process requests of the

application client, and a database accessible by the application servers, and wherein the method

comprises the steps of:

detecting that a first of the application servers fails to access the database;

receiving, by the first application server, a request from the application client to the first

application server;

receiving, by a second of the application servers, the request from the first application

server while the first application server fails to access the database;

processing, by the second application server, the request to generate a response;

receiving, by the first application server, the response from the second application server;

and

forwarding, by the first application server, the response to the application client.

12. (New) The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of receiving, from the

second application server, the response into an input queue of the first application server.

13. (New) The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of transferring the

response from the input queue of the first application server to an output queue of the first

application server.

14. (New) The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of receiving, from the

second application server, the response into an output queue of the first application server.